THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI R. JANARTHANAN): (a) Kendriya Bhandar is a cooperative society registered under the Delhi Cooperative Societies Act, 1972 and has been set up for the welfare of the Central Government employees. Its management vests in its Board of Directors constituted under the bye-laws of the Society. Under the Government of India (Allocation of Business Rules), 1961, the subject 'staff welfare' including Kendriya Bhandar is dealt with by Department of Personnel and Training.

(b) to (d) The employees of Kendriya Bhandar are governed by the conditions of service prescribed by the Delhi Shops and Establishments Act, 1972, Industrial Disputes Act and other relevant labour laws. They are on Kendriya Bhandar's own scales of pay linked to the All India Consumer Price Index as on 1.7.1992 and are on industrial dearness allowance pattern. They are, therefore, not eligible for service benefits available to the Central Government employees.

Extension Beyond the Age of Sixty-two Years

1759. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs has recommended in its 33d Report that no one including Consultant shall be given extension beyond the age of 62 years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the General Manager of Kendriya Bhandar is continuing in his office even after attaining the age of 65 years whereas the employees of Kendriya Bhandar retire after 58 years;

(c) if so, the justification for granting extension beyond 62 years in violation of the Committee's recommendation; and

(d) what remedial steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI R. JANARTHANAN): (a) The recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs in paragraphs 36 and 37 of its 33rd Report related to the policy about engagement of Consultants by Government. The Kendriya Bhandar is a society registered under the Delhi Cooperative Societies Act, 1972. Its General Manager is not a Consultant. These Recommendations of the Standing Committee are not relevant in the case of the Kendriya Bhandar.

(b) to (d) The present General Manager of the Kendriya Bhandar is under 64 years of age. While the age of retirement in the Kendriya Bhandar is 58 years, its Board of Directors/ Management is competent to grant extension in suitable cases in the interest of the Kendriya Bhandar.

Age Relaxation to OBC Candidates

1760. SHRI SHARIEF-UD-DIN SHARIQ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a three year age relaxation has been given only to the OBCs in All India Civil Services, etc. by the last Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that SCs/ STs and other general candidates have not been given this privilege;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and by when discrimination in this regard would be removed; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?